

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for sharing data over a network, having a plurality of network-connected terminals, each terminal comprising:
  - a visual display ~~means~~;
  - ~~processing means~~ a processor;
  - storage ~~means~~; and
  - memory ~~means~~; wherein
  - said memory ~~means~~ includes
  - instructions to duplicate an object from a second of said network-connected terminals at a first of said network-connected terminals in response to a data requirement of said first terminal;
  - instructions to access data in said object using locally executed object instructions at said first terminal; and
  - instructions to maintain data consistency between duplicated objects by establishing a duplicate master, wherein the role of said duplicate master is switchable between said duplicated objects.
2. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said instructions are either stored in said storage ~~means~~ or are loaded from an external medium and retrieved into said memory ~~means~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said instructions to maintain data consistency between duplicated objects monitor Central Processing Unit usage and network bandwidth ~~utilisation~~utilization.

4. (Currently amended) A method of sharing data over a network, having a plurality of network-connected terminals, each terminal comprising memory ~~means~~ and ~~processing means~~ processor, said memory ~~means~~ including instructions for managing object duplication, including steps of:

(a) in response to a data requirement of a first of said network terminals, duplicating an object from a second of said network terminals at said first terminal;

(b) at said first terminal, accessing data in said object using locally executed object instructions; and

(c) maintaining data consistency between duplicated objects by establishing a duplicate master, wherein the role of said duplicate master is switchable between said duplicated objects.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said object duplication instructions for managing object duplication constitutes a duplication manager.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein said object from a second of said network terminals is ~~a~~said duplicate master.

Claim 7 – cancelled.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said duplicate master updates said duplicate.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein only one duplicate master exists for a group of duplicates.

Claim 10 – cancelled.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein said switching is the result of a command, called load-balancing, or the result of an automatic fault-recovery process performed by the duplication manager.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of sharing data over a network, having a plurality of network-connected terminals, each terminal comprising memory ~~means~~ and ~~processing means~~ a processor, said memory ~~means~~ including instructions for managing object duplication, including ~~steps of~~:

(a) in response to an availability of a list of said network terminals, duplicating an object from a second of said network terminals at said first terminal;

(b) at said first terminal, accessing data using locally executable object instructions;  
and

(c) maintaining data consistency between duplicated objects by establishing a duplicate master, wherein the role of said duplicate master is switchable between said duplicated objects.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein said object duplication instructions for managing object duplication constitute a duplication manager.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein said object from a second of said network terminals is asaid duplicate master;

Claim 15 – cancelled.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein said duplicate master updates said duplicate.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein only one duplicate master exists for a group of duplicates.

Claim 18 – cancelled.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~18~~12, wherein said switching is the result of a command, ~~called~~ load-balancing, or the result of an automatic fault-recovery process performed by the duplication manager.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions executable by a computer such that, when executing said instructions, a computer will ~~perform the steps of:~~

(a) in response to a data requirement of a first network terminal of a plurality of network terminals, ~~duplicating~~duplicate an object from a second of said plurality of network terminals at said first terminal;

(b) at said first terminal, ~~accessing~~access data in said object using locally executed object instructions; and

(c) ~~maintaining~~maintain data consistency between duplicated objects by establishing a duplicate master, wherein the role of said duplicate master is switchable between said duplicated objects.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions executable by a computer such that, when executing said instructions a computer will ~~perform the steps of:~~

(a) in response to an availability of a list of network terminals, ~~duplicating~~duplicate an object from a second of said network terminals at a first of said terminals;

(b) at said first terminal, ~~facilitating~~facilitate data access using locally executable object instructions; and

(c) ~~maintaining~~maintain data consistency between duplicated objects by establishing a duplicate master, wherein the role of said duplicate master is switchable between said duplicated objects.